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#### ABOUT TAKING OURSELVES TOO SERIOUSLY

One of the differences—if not the principal one—between man and beast is the power of laughter. Man has it—it is reserved to him—and as you proceed upward through the ranks of men you see the quality of humor increase. And this ranking is not alone in position of material wealth. Those who spread the greatest good to fellow men, who contribute most to progress and the advancement of society have the quality of humor. They do not take themselves too seriously, perhaps because they do not brood heavily over themselves. So why should we take ourselves too seriously?

Did you ever hear of anyone actually dying of laughter? Neither did we. It isn't given in the table of mortal statistics. And if one does think of himself too seriously he has a hard time—and think of the pitiful spectacle he makes.

Perhaps we ought to be obliged to take one good dose of laughter each day. Bruce Barton recently wrote along this line:

"When Carnegie's young men were making his fortune, and their own, he received a letter from a solemn stockholder.

"Your Mr. Schwab does not have the proper sense of the dignity of his position,' the letter said. 'When he meets with his directors, their laughter can be heard all over the office. This is not a good example to set before the organization.'

"Carnegie mailed the letter to Schwab and sent with it the framed picture of a monk, holding his fat sides and laughing until the tears ran down his face.

"Hang this picture in the directors' room,' he directed. 'Have every director take a good look at it before each meeting. Let it be a constant reminder that good business is never done except in a happy frame of mind.'

"Little business is done with solemn boredom; most big enterprises are carried forward in the spirit of a great game; while genius is, as Coleridge described it, 'Carrying the feelings of youth into the powers of manhood.'"—*O. B. Bulletin.*

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#### CORPORATION!

"I see in the paper that a widower with nine children out in Nebraska, has married a widow with seven children."

"That was no marriage. That was a merger."